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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of:

KIKUO YAMADA

GROUP ART UNIT: 3723

Serial Number: 10/577,362

EXAMINER: McDonald, Shantese L.

Filed: June 16, 2006

DATE: July 24, 2009

For: CLEANER

Docket No. HOS-74

COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In the above-captioned U.S. patent application, an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on June 11, 2009 (received by the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) on June 15, 2009), accompanied by the required fee of \$180.00. In response, on June 26, 2009, the USPTO mailed a NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT in which the USPTO indicated that the earlier filed Information Disclosure Statement lacked the statement required by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e).

Accordingly, in order to cure this inadvertent informality, on July 1, 2009, Applicant filed a revised IDS (received by OIPE on July 6, 2009) in which the required statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) was provided, accompanied by a copy of the Supplementary European Search Report. In the revised IDS, mention was made of payment of the \$180.00 IDS fee.

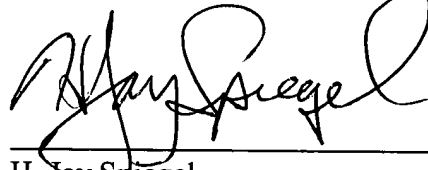
In reviewing the file history online at the USPTO website, Applicant noted the following statement stamped thereon by a USPTO official: "The PTO did not receive the following listed

item(s) ... \$180.00.” (See attached copy of resubmitted IDS as downloaded from the USPTO website.) In response, again, the required \$180.00 fee was submitted with the original IDS filed on June 11, 2009, and Applicant is unaware of any requirement to submit a second \$180.00 fee where the resubmission of the IDS was merely to correct an inadvertent informality.

Should any additional fee be required, Applicant requests that a notification be given, whereupon the additional fee will be promptly paid.

Respectfully submitted,

H. JAY SPIEGEL & ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Jay Spiegel", written over a horizontal line.

H. Jay Spiegel
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KIKUO YAMADA

Serial Number: 10/577,362

Filed: June 16, 2006

For: CLEANER



GROUP ART UNIT: 3723

EXAMINER: S. L. McDonald

Atty. Docket #: HOS-74

Date: July 1, 2009

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These documents were cited in the European Search Report of the corresponding European application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). This is a re-submission of an IDS filed June 15, 2009. Also attached hereto are copies of pertinent pages from the European Search Report bearing the date May 12, 2009. The prior art references were submitted with the earlier IDS filing. The claims patentably distinguish from the listed references.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

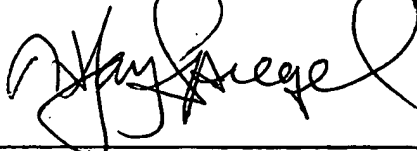
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art". If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed and claimed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Also attached is a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee.

Respectfully submitted,

H. JAY SPIEGEL & ASSOCIATES



H. Jay Spiegel
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The PTO did not receive the following
listed item(s) check \$180.00